



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

April 3d.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Fifty members present.

A paper was presented for publication, entitled, "Conspectus Piscium in expeditione ad Oceanum Pacificum Septentrionalem, C. Ringgold et J. Rodgers ducibus, a Guilelmo Stimpson, M. D., collectore; Sicydianæ: auctore Theo. Gill."

Mr. Lesley read the following extract from a letter received from Mr. T. S. Hunt, Chemist of the Canada Geological Survey, dated Montreal, March 25th, 1860 :—

"If we mingle in equivalent proportions the chlorides of calcium and magnesium in concentrated solution, and then having precipitated the bases by a slight excess of carbonate of soda in the cold, and expose the mixture for a few hours in a closed flask to a temperature of 200°—212° F., the pasty mass is entirely transformed into a beautiful granular powder, made up of spherical, translucent, crystalline grains, which are sparingly soluble in cold, dilute, acetic acid and are a double carbonate of lime and magnesia. In my previous and published trials, at temperatures of 300°—400° F., the product was much less beautiful, and was mingled with carbonate of magnesia. It now remains to be seen whether the combination may not be slowly effected at a temperature much below 200° F., and experiments upon this point are in progress."

Mr. Lesley drew the attention of the Academy to the significant direction in which these and similar experiments are carrying the chemical geology of the day. If they result in nothing more than the destruction of those *igneous* prejudices which still shackle observers, especially in metamorphic mineral regions, and set us free to study *ab initio* the phenomena of magnetic iron veins, copper lodes and gold quartz, primary limestones, serpentines and dolomites, the consequences must be practically important.

Mr. Foulke remarked the equally important bearing the low temperature of these experiments must be seen to have, on the theory of non-fossiliferous, primary rocks. If metamorphism has been possible at such low temperatures, the argument in favor of the destruction of organic remains from metamorphic strata by fiery agencies is of force no longer, and we must conclude that these early and apparently non-fossiliferous rocks were really destitute of life.

Dr. Leidy stated that he had just received a short notice from Prof. Leuckart, of Giessen, in which he mentions the results of some experiments with *Trichina spiralis*. Having fed dogs with human flesh containing *Trichinæ*, he found that in a week or less, the worms completed their development, but without assuming the form of a *Tricocephalus* or *Strongylus*. Within the intestine of the dog, the generative apparatus, together with the eggs and embryos, were fully developed in the *Trichinæ*. The embryos rapidly pass away with the excrement of the dog. A pig having been fed with a dog's intestine containing fully developed *Trichinæ*, was killed and dissected on the 3d of March, and exhibited in the muscles millions of *Trichinæ*. From these facts it is rendered probable that embryos of *Trichina* voided by dogs find their way into the human stomach through the food or drink, and subsequently burrow into the tissues of the body.

NOTE.—The date of the meeting of the Academy on page 51, should be Feb. 14th, instead of Feb. 11th.

[March,